

MORNING PAPERS : Thursday, 23rd March, 1950  
EVENING PAPERS : Thursday, 23rd March, 1950  
BROADCASTING STATIONS : Midnight, Wednesday, 22nd, March, 1950

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS - AUSTRALIA, JANUARY, 1950.

Monthly records of employment, referred to in this notice, relate to all wage and salary earners, except those in rural industry and female private domestic service, that is, they cover about 90 per cent. of all wage and salary earners in employment.

EMPLOYMENT DURING JANUARY.

At the end of January the number of males employed (1,821,900) was 5,700 more than in December, 1949. The number of females in employment at the end of January was 673,700 showing the usual decline from the seasonal peak, which was 680,800 in December, 1949. Comparisons of numbers in employment in the corresponding months of January, 1949 and 1950 are as follows:-

<u>Number in</u> <u>Employment.</u>	<u>January, 1949</u>	<u>January, 1950.</u>
Males ..	1,756,100	1,821,900
Females ..	653,200	673,700
<u>Total:</u>	<u>2,409,300</u>	<u>2,495,600</u>

MOVEMENT SINCE 1939.

The following table shows the number in employment in Australia as at key dates since 1939:-

<u>Employees as at</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Persons</u>
July, 1939 (a) ..	1,293.1	437.1	1,730.2
November, 1941 (b) ..	1,381.4	579.8	1,961.2
July, 1943 (c) ..	1,266.4	639.2	1,905.6
December, 1943 (d) ..	1,278.3	646.3	1,924.6
August, 1945 (e) ..	1,309.7	617.3	1,927.0
January, 1946 (f) ..	1,366.0	588.4	1,954.4
January, 1950 ..	1,821.9	673.7	2,495.6

- (a) Prior to outbreak of war.  
(b) Immediately prior to Japan's entry into war. Highest level of war time male employment.  
(c) Lowest level of war time male employment.  
(d) Highest level of war time female employment.  
(e) Termination of hostilities.  
(f) Lowest level of female employment since January, 1942.

CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

The number of males employed in factories rose during January, 1950 by 4,700 to reach 642,700. Smaller increases occurred in all other groups except commerce which fell by 2,800 to 251,300.

A seasonal decrease of 6,500 females employed in commerce (mainly in retailing) accounted for the greater part of the fall in female employment. Most other groups showed small seasonal decreases.

INCREASE IN FACTORY EMPLOYMENT

Persons employed in factories increased by 4,000 during January, 1950, a fall of 700 in females being offset by a rise of 4,700 in males. Male employment increased by 4,600 in the metals, machines, vehicles, etc. class and decreased by 1,100 in food, drink, and tobacco. On the other hand, females, employed in the food, drink, and tobacco class increased by 1,000, whilst those employed in the clothing class decreased by 1,400.

ROLAND WILSON  
COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN